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TABLE 22

BUTTER EXPORTS IN THE BALTIC STATES[a]

(*In Metric Tons*)

YEAR	LITHUANIA	LATVIA	ESTONIA
1927	2,051	10,761	9,906
1928	2,643	13,006	11,222
1929	4,084	14,830	12,359
1930	7,357	13,430	14,066
1931	8,705	18,739	14,444
1932	9,926	18,598	12,531
1933	9,580	15,720	9,224
1934	9,671	15,701	10,118
1935	12,154	16,816	10,838
1936	14,629	17,291	10,955
1937	15,058	19,211	13,179
1938	17,413	23,464	14,732
1939	16,386	(b)	(b)

[a] C.S.B., volumes for 1927 to 1939.
[b] Figures not available.

LIVESTOCK

Livestock breeding is one of the branches of agriculture that suffered greatly in the World War. As soon as the war started in 1914 Russia requisitioned the best horses for the army. Then came the German army, which took what had been left by the Russians. Only horses unfit for army use were left.

To alleviate a great shortage of food caused by the Allied blockade the Germans requisitioned even the milk cows for slaughter. The reduction in livestock in Lithuania in 1919 as compared with 1913 was as follows: horses, 38 percent; cattle, 47.7 percent; pigs, 44 percent; sheep, 30 percent. The reduction of stock may be clearly seen from Table 23,

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TABLE 23

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LIVESTOCK IN LITHUANIA 1913–39

YEAR	HORSES (1,000 head)	CATTLE (1,000 head)	PIGS (1,000 head)	SHEEP (1,000 head)
1913	451	918	1,138	1,152
1919	280	480	750	806
1920	335	604	1,119	894
1921	376	780	1,262	1,036
1925	497	1,339	1,488	1,455
1928 [a]	611	1,128	1,010	1,409
1930	562	1,034	1,207	1,212
1935 [b]	545	1,132	1,223	1,220
1938 [c]	558	1,193	1,249	1,241
1939	521	1,004	1,117	1,224

[a] For the period 1913–28: Kubilius, *op. cit.*, p. 86; C.S.B., 1918–28, p. 58.
[b] For the years 1930 and 1935: *Lietuvos Surasymas*, 1935, pp. 40–51.
[c] C.S.B., volumes for 1938 and 1939.

which shows also that livestock breeding recovered very quickly after the World War, so that as early as 1925 the number of livestock was even greater than it had been in 1913. Exports of livestock and their products constituted 26.13 percent of the total value of exports as early as 1924 and reached 31.02 percent in 1928 and 61.4 percent in 1939. It may be interesting to analyze the livestock situation according to its various important branches.

[439]

231 [523]

Horses were bred in Lithuania as far back as historians can trace the Lithuanian people. That horses are beloved by Lithuanians is proved by the many folk songs about them. In the Middle Ages Lithuania needed horses for its wars and bred them in great numbers for that purpose. Some of them were even sold in foreign markets.[30]

[30] Kriksciunas, *op. cit.*, p. 152.

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TABLE 24

EXPORT VALUE OF LIVESTOCK AND THEIR PRODUCTS*

(In Thousands of Litas)

YEAR	HORSES	CATTLE	PIGS	MEAT, MEAT PRODUCTS	MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE	SKINS	BRISTLES, HAIR, BONES	TOTAL	PERCENT OF NATION'S TOTAL EXPORTS
1924	16,219	5,404	11,773	10,966	6,969	16,022	4,233	71,586	26.1
1925	14,475	7,386	14,119	6,672	12,123	11,731	3,397	69,903	28.9
1926	5,322	9,320	20,895	8,641	16,295	7,123	3,067	70,663	28.4
1927	10,993	6,756	12,864	6,826	17,537	11,315	2,133	68,424	27.8
1928	9,820	7,445	11,533	5,874	25,560	17,160	2,186	79,578	31.0
1930	10,306	12,975	38,753	46,112	52,543	7,790	2,652	171,131	51.3
1935	3,435	106	7,084	25,808	24,878	3,286	1,149	65,746	43.2
1937	4,964	2,189	16,336	31,127	48,193	7,343	1,782	111,934	53.7
1938	5,060	2,837	21,257	36,196	58,110	5,569	1,454	130,483	55.9
1939	3,300	2,436	23,509	39,884	50,056	4,055	1,614	124,854	61.4

* C.S.B., volumes for 1924 to 1939.

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231 In recent years horses have been used a great deal for farm work. Lithuania being a country of small farms, it is usually quite impossible for the farmer to invest in expensive machinery. Furthermore, labor is too cheap for mechanized farming to be able to compete with it. Thus, the total number of horses in Lithuania is considerably larger than in the neighboring countries, Latvia and Estonia.

Shortly before the World War, and immediately after it, the small "Samogitian horses" (Zemaitukai) or "Lithuanian horses" were especially famous in western Europe. They are unusually hardy and are of the same breed as those with which Lithuanians in the Middle Ages made their inroads into Smolensk, Novgorod, and Moscow in their wars with the Russians.[37] These horses are especially suited for use in a country of large forests, bad roads, and primitive farming. But at the end of the nineteenth century, and especially at the beginning of the twentieth, conditions changed. More advanced farming with heavier tools required bigger and stronger horses, and horses of this type were crossed with the small "Samogitians." At the present time there are found many breeds of horses, but very few are of a pure breed. After the World War horse raising was vastly improved by establishing free central stations for horse husbandry. The sturdy "Samogitians" were valuable particularly for work in mines.

231 439 Shortly after the World War, demand for horses being great and prices high, a substantial number of horses were exported, but in recent years the export of horses has been

[37] *Ibid.*, p. 153.

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TABLE 25

EXPORT OF HORSES 1924–39

YEAR	NUMBER OF HORSES	VALUE (*In million litas*)
1924	23,204	16.2
1926	10,347	5.3
1928	27,224	9.8
1930	20,647	10.3
1932	8,215	2.2
1934	17,318	4.6
1936	14,900	5.6
1937	13,262	4.9
1938	12,230	5.1
1939	7,130	3.3

on the decline. The greatest importers of Lithuanian horses are Latvia, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Finland. In 1938 the export of Lithuanian horses was as follows:

Latvia	3,254	Belgium	1,041	Germany	378
Netherlands	2,284	Switzerland	837	Czechoslovakia	37
Denmark	1,908	Sweden	698	Estonia	6
Finland	1,277	Great Britain	341		

Cattle breeding is one of the branches of livestock husbandry which not only recovered rapidly from the ravages of the World War but showed both a slight increase in number of head as compared with 1913 and a substantial improvement in quality. Evidence of improved quality is shown by the tenfold increase in butter production. The 1930 and 1935 censuses reveal the various categories of Lithuanian cattle as in Table 26.

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TABLE 26

●231 CATEGORIES OF LITHUANIAN CATTLE IN 1930 AND 1935*

	1930	1935
Calves less than one year old	216,890	160,670
Heifers one year old and older	135,670	176,300
Oxen one year old and older	27,200	38,730
Milk cows	654,030	755,830
TOTAL	1,033,790	1,131,530

* *Lietuvos Suvažymas*, 1935, pp. 43–44.

From this table we see that about 65 percent of all the cattle of Lithuania are milk cows. The total number of cattle increased in 1935 as compared with 1930 by 9.5 percent, while the number of calves less than a year old was substantially smaller.

Pig breeding, another important branch of Lithuanian agriculture, is connected to some extent with dairying. This is because the dairies yield large quantities of skimmed milk, [439] which is always an excellent feed for pigs. Until 1924 the exports of pigs and pork from Lithuania were insignificant, but in later years, especially since 1930, after the Maistas Corporation developed its activities on a wider scale, the exports have increased considerably. In its stockyard at Kaunas about 800 workers were employed before the Russian occupation, while in the establishments at Siauliai, Panevezys and Taurage, smaller numbers were employed.

236 Sheep breeding in Lithuania is mainly for wool production, but wool has not played any great role in the exports of Lithuania, as the bulk was consumed by domestic agriculturists for making cloth at home. After the World War, conditions gradually changed; the farmers began to sell sur-

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TABLE 27

EXPORT OF PIGS AND PORK PRODUCTS 1924–39 231 439

YEAR	LIVE PIGS (*1,000 head*)	BACON (*1,000 metric tons*) [a]	FRESH PORK (*1,000 metric tons*) [a]
1924	43.5	0.0	1.1
1926	72.0	0.0	2.0
1928	41.8	0.6	1.2
1930	154.1	17.4	3.2
1932	33.7	40.9	5.5
1934	46.1	30.7	4.4
1936	117.0	10.2	5.1
1937	137.7	10.5	3.5
1938	153.1	11.8	1.6
1939	179.7	15.6	1.1

[a] One metric ton = 2,204.6 U.S. pounds.

plus wool and to buy clothing ready-made in town instead of making it themselves. Since the climate is unfavorable for sheep breeding and the wool from Lithuanian sheep is therefore poor, domestic wool is mixed by the textile industry of Lithuania with imported wool of better quality. The value of wool imports in recent years was as follows: in 1936, 1,859,700 litas; in 1937, 2,558,900 litas; in 1938, 1,681,900 litas and in 1939 1,436,100 litas. The bulk of this wool came from Great Britain. There is perhaps no great future for sheep breeding; on the contrary, it is likely that this branch of livestock production will decrease even more. 236

POULTRY FARMING

Poultry farming is also a very old branch of Lithuania's agriculture, and the role it has played in the exports picture has not been unimportant. Poultry farming is especially 235

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of the Government. Since then, the dairy industry and the manufacture of butter have made rapid progress. In 1937, the 193 dairymen's co-operative societies, all of which are equipped with the most up-to-date machinery, supplied 420 million kilogrammes of milk — including that delivered to the 2,052 cream-separating centres — and produced 16.9 million kilogrammes of butter. Though, since the war, the population has increased by some 300,000 inhabitants, the consumption of dairy products per head is at present greater than before the war, and butter exports, which were formerly negligible, amounted in 1924 to 524 metric tons and in 1936/37 to 15,000 tons approximately.

Hand in hand with the development of the dairy industries has gone the development of pig-breeding (skim-milk is used for the fattening of young pigs). Not only has the number of pigs considerably increased (from 450,000 in 1913 to 1,192,000 in 1937), but the quality of the pigs (for the manufacture of bacon) has greatly improved. With the Government's financial support, a bacon export industry has been rapidly built up. In 1928, bacon exports amounted to 150 metric tons; in 1932, to more than 25,000 metric tons, and, in 1936/37 (being affected by the introduction of bacon import quotas in England), to more than 10,000 metric tons. These figures, together with those for the export of live pigs (in 1932, 34,000, and, in 1936/37, 125,000 approximately) and the number of pigs kept are proof of the progress made.

Poultry-keeping also has made considerable headway; more pure-bred poultry are being raised, and feeding and poultry-keeping technique have become more efficient. Horse-breeding likewise has improved, thus facilitating the sale of Lithuanian horses in foreign markets.

Such are the methods whereby the Ministry of Agriculture, the Chamber of Agriculture and the organisations working in conjunction with the latter are striving to improve the production both of crops and live-stock and to foster agricultural industries (dairy industries and the manufacture of bacon). Since 1931, the Chamber of Agriculture has also been endeavouring, with the co-operation of the Union of Young Farmers' Clubs, to rationalise and modernise home industries (weaving, knitting, fur-dressing, felt-making, pottery, furniture, etc.) and to improve the artistic qualities of the articles produced. Products of the home industries are thus enabled to compete with factory-produced goods.

Lithuanian RBS

181 They are industrious, peace-loving, and
unassuming people, described by ancient chroniclers as "rough but pious." Since time immemorial and ever spiritually attuned to nature, they have built their entire culture upon a natural basis. Like the Letts, who are related to them, they live to a great extent in a "wood age" which is very ancient but for that reason no less many-sided, skillful, and
342 sensible. The houses are made of wood; their foundation beams rest on the bare soil or on field boulders. The roof at one time probably consisted of spruce bark, as the covering sheets for the peat still do today; but now the roof is made of straw which is held on to the ridge by ridge rid
In front of the door there is usually placed a narrow porch with a gabled roof and with little benches to the right and to the left. Formerly the houses had only one room, smoking-room style, but now they usually have a tripartite division with entrance hall in the middle, and living room and bedroom to the right and the left of it. The floor consists of
352 a loam coating or of boarding. The furniture consists of wall benches, loose benches, well-carved solid chairs, a table, wall boards, and pine-
353 wood splinter holders; on the walls are hung pictures of saints, frequently portraits of the old Lithuanian rulers, and, symptomatic for the
343 great amount of emigration, photographs from America. Aside from the living quarters, granaries (klete), barns, stables, wells, and bath
515 house belong to the Lithuanian farmstead. In the bath house they bathe in steam which rises from heated stones on which the water is poured. This, incidentally, is also the way the Indians do it. The bather lies on a bench and cools and massages himself at the same time by means
412 of a cluster of birch twigs which he dips in fresh water. The hand-operated mill is a very ancient instrument. It has one stationary and
● [231] one turning stone in a wooden box. Likewise ancient is the beehive made of a hollow tree stem--bee keeping is the most original native and the most highly developed form of the collecting economy, which is here, as among the Letts, universally practiced and skillfully cultivated--; ancient, too, is the zoche, the plow with the forked share, which, as late as the 16th century, was made entirely of wood, and which even today is completely wooden except for the iron shoe; just like the harrows with branches tied to them, and the snowshoes made of hollowed-
534 out oak boards tied under the foot. Ancient, also, are the musical instruments: the nine-stringed kanklys, the truba made of a birch branch cut lengthwise, hollowed out, and tied together again; the short reed pipe, the trapezoid shaped cymbal, the stringed zither made of an osier switch, played with a bow fashioned in the same way; with a resonator